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Edie and Denny Lott

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Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Pamela Creedon  
Executive Officer  
CVRWQCB  
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114

Dear Pamela:

We are writing concerning the Clean-up and Abatement Order (CAO) for the Rubicon Trail. We are non-motorized users of the area near Loon Lake and want to see the area protected. While the Rubicon is a county road, it has become an unmanaged extreme off road vehicle park with severe impacts to the Trail and adjacent National Forest lands that are being destroyed by off-roaders.

We believe winter wet season closure of the Trail is the first major step that should be implemented immediately. The abuses of snow and wet season travel by 4x4 vehicles on this route is well documented by the users' own photos. Over the snow travel on nearby USFS dirt roads is not allowed. This one measure will go a long way toward eliminating a major cause of the ongoing resource damage with little to no cost to El Dorado County. Gates are a simple proven form of enforcement.

Use permits, fees, and quotas to protect the Trail. The Rubicon passes through high alpine forests identical to those in adjacent Desolation Wilderness. The difference between the two is appalling. The Forest Service limits use in Desolation through a quota system and a permit fee; why can't the county do the same for the Rubicon Trail? Also, eliminate the use of extreme vehicles. These are causing most of the damage. Restrict use to street legal vehicles only.

In summary please stop encroachment into non-motorized acres, regulate use and enforce existing boundaries and regulations.

Sincerely,



Edie and Denny Lott